



MIAMI TOWNSHIP FIRE & EMS CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO *MEDICAL PROTOCOLS*



PSYCHIATRIC PROTOCOL

Historical Findings

1. A medically stable patient who is manifesting unusual behavior including violence, aggression, altered affect, or psychosis.

Physical Findings

1. Patient demonstrates behavior including violence, delirium, altered effect, or psychosis.
2. If obtainable, serum blood sugar greater than or equal to 60 mg/dL. (If assessment cannot be obtained prior to physical restraint, then measurement should occur after patient restraint whenever safe or feasible to do so.)
3. If obtainable, systolic blood pressure greater than or equal to 90 mm Hg and less than 180 mm Hg. (If assessment cannot be obtained prior to physical restraint, then measurement should occur after patient restraint whenever safe or feasible to do so.)
4. If obtainable, heart rate greater than or equal to 50 bpm. (If assessment cannot be obtained prior to physical restraint, then measurement should occur after patient restraint whenever safe or feasible to do so.)

Differential Diagnosis

1. Anemia	9. Hypoxia
2. Cerebrovascular accident	10. Infection (meningitis/ encephalitis)
3. Drug / Alcohol intoxication	11. Metabolic disorders
4. Dysrhythmias	12. Myocardial ischemia / infarction
5. Electrolyte imbalance	13. Pulmonary Embolism
6. Head Trauma	14. Seizure
7. Hypertension	15. Shock
8. Hypoglycemia	16. Toxicological ingestion



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Protocol

1. If EMS personnel have advance knowledge of a violent or potentially dangerous patient or circumstance, consideration should be given to staging in a strategically convenient but safe area prior to police arrival. If staging is indicated and implemented, dispatch should be notified that EMS is staging, the location of the staging area, and to have police advise EMS when scene is safe for EMS to respond.
2. If EMS intervention is indicated for the violent or combative patient, patients should be gently and cautiously persuaded to follow EMS personnel instructions. If EMS has cause to believe that the patient's ability to exercise an informed refusal or is impaired by an existing medical condition, EMS shall, initiate restraints per the restraint protocol when necessary. Such restraint shall whenever possible, be effected with the assistance of police personnel (See restraint protocol). It is recognized that urgent circumstances may necessitate immediate action by EMS prior to the arrival of police.
 - A. Urgent circumstances requiring immediate action are defined as:
 - i. Patient presents an immediate threat to the safety of self or others.
 - ii. Patient presents an immediate threat to EMS personnel.
3. Urgent circumstances authorize, but do not obligate, restraint by EMS personnel prior to police arrival. The safety and capabilities of EMS are a primary consideration. Police shall immediately be requested by EMS in any urgent circumstance requiring restraint of a patient by EMS personnel.
4. If police initiate restraint inconsistent with the medical provisions of the restraint protocol, with the intent that EMS will transport the patient, police must prepare to submit an APPLICATION FOR EMERGENCY ADMISSION in accordance with Section 5122.10 ORC, or the patient must be placed under arrest with medical intervention indicated. Police shall, in either instance, accompany EMS to the hospital.
5. APPLICATION FOR EMERGENCY ADMISSION can only be implemented by
 - A. Psychiatrist
 - B. Licensed Clinical Psychologist



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- C. Licensed Medical Physician (MD, DO)
 - D. Health or Police Officer
 - E. Sheriff or Deputy Sheriff
6. EMS shall not be obligated to transport without an accompanying police officer any time a patient is currently violent, exhibiting violent tendencies, or has a history indicating a reasonable expectation that the patient will become violent.
7. If the patient is medically stable then he/she may be transported by police in the following circumstances:
- A. Patient has normal orientation to person, place, time, and situation.
 - B. No evidence of medical illness or injury.
 - C. Patient has exhibited behavior consistent with mental illness and or is in police custody for other law enforcement issue.
 - D. If there is a question concerning transport consult the Fire/EMS supervisor or medical command physician.